

Photo Guidelines

Please read the [Official Contest Rules here](#). and find [Frequently Asked Questions here](#).

What?

We're seeking amazing photos from amateur photographers that highlight the best of America's federal lands, national parks and historical sites in these categories:

a. **Adventure & Outdoor Recreation**

Share photos of your favorite activities and adventures on federal lands across America's Great Outdoors – camping, hiking, biking, boating, fishing, kayaking, skiing, climbing, riding, etc.

b. **Historical & Cultural**

Inspire with images depicting historical locations and cultural events – from national historical sites and monuments to cultural celebrations on federal lands

c. **Scenic, Seasons & Landscapes**

Capture scenic vistas and sweeping landscapes -- fall foliage, forests, winter wonderlands, flowers, mountains, deserts, canyons, lakes, beaches, rivers, and more.

d. **Let's Move Outside!**

Part of The First Lady Michelle Obama's Let's Move! initiative, Let's Move Outside! encourages kids and families to be active and explore America's Great Outdoors. So, what are you waiting for? Get outside and share your adventure with us!

e. **Wildlife**

Take a walk on the wild side with photos of wildlife on federal lands – mammals, birds, insects, reptiles. Keep your distance and stay safe!

Where?

Photos must be taken on the lands or within the facilities of these participating agencies:

- a. National Park Service
- b. U.S. Bureau of Land Management
- c. U.S. Bureau of Reclamation
- d. U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- e. U.S. Forest Service

When?

Photographs must be taken between January 1, 2011 and December 31, 2013 and contest entries are accepted from May 10, 2013 to December 31, 2013. Winners will be announced by May 1, 2014.

How to Submit?

- a. Submit photos at: www.sharetheexperience.org
- b. Only submit photos you yourself have taken
- c. Submit photos in JPEG format. Try to ensure that the photo is 3 mb or larger with high resolution (winning photos must work in print).

How are the photos Judged?

Photos will be judged on the following criteria:

(i) originality, (ii) artistic composition, (iii) technical quality, (iv) photographic technique, and (v) whether

the photograph showcases the best of America's recreational opportunities.
[See Prizes here.](#)

Why?

We are looking for the official photo that will be featured on the America the Beautiful Federal Recreation Lands Pass for 2015. Plus, it's a fantastic way to "Share the Experience" and let others see and appreciate all the incredible federal lands and adventures across the nation.

Who's Eligible to Enter?

- a. Legal residents of the fifty United States and DC, and at least 13 years of age or older as of May 10, 2013.
- b. Amateur Photographers (less than 20% of your total income is from photography).
- c. Photographs must be taken by you and you must have the rights to the photo.

Who's Ineligible to Enter?

- a. Employees of the participating agencies and sponsors and their family members are not eligible to win prizes. You are allowed to upload photos, but must check the box identifying that you are an employee.
- b. Individuals who derive 20% or more of their income from photography.

What Not to Do

- a. Do not alter or manipulate photos except for cropping, red eye removal and/or adjustment of contrast and brightness
- b. Don't break any laws or rules of federal lands
- c. Don't do anything unsafe
- d. Don't photograph anything that is inappropriate, indecent or obscene

What to Do

- a. Enjoy your experience and share it with us!
- b. Vote for your favorites online
- c. Tell your friends

Prizes

GRAND PRIZE

- **\$15,000**
- Your image on the Annual Federal Recreation Lands Pass (2015) distributed to nearly 500,000 people annually
- A Columbia Sportswear Ridge 20L Backpack
- An Air Wick Prize Pack
- An Annual Federal Recreation Lands Pass

2nd PRIZE

- **\$5,000**
- A Columbia Sportswear Ridge 20L Backpack
- An Air Wick Prize Pack
- An Annual Federal Recreation Lands Pass

3rd PRIZE

- **\$2,500**
- A Columbia Sportswear Ridge 20L Backpack
- An Air Wick Prize Pack
- An Annual Federal Recreation Lands Pass

HONORABLE MENTION PRIZES

- **Fan Favorite:** Voucher for a 2-night hotel stay provided by Historic Hotels of America at [Cavallo Point San Francisco, CA](#)
- **Fan Favorite:** Voucher for a 2-night hotel stay provided by Historic Hotels of America at [The Wort Hotel, Jackson, WY](#)
- **Adventure & Outdoor Recreation:** Voucher for a 2-night hotel stay provided by Historic Hotels of America at [Gettysburg Hotel, Gettysburg, PA](#)
- **Historical & Cultural:** Voucher for a 2-night hotel stay provided by Historic Hotels of America at [Jekyll Island Club Hotel Jekyll Island, GA](#)
- **Scenic, Seasons & Landscapes:** Voucher for a 2-night hotel stay provided by Historic Hotels of America at [The Alex Johnson, Rapid City, SD](#)
- **Let's Move Outside!** Voucher for a 2-night hotel stay provided by Historic Hotels of America at [Hassayampa Inn, Prescott, AZ](#)
- **Wildlife:** Voucher for a 2-night hotel stay provided by Historic Hotels of America at [Mayflower Park, Seattle, WA](#)

All Honorable Mention Winners also receive:

- An Annual Federal Recreation Lands Pass
- A Columbia Sportswear Ridge 20L Backpack
- An Air Wick Prize Package

SWEEPSTAKES PRIZES

- **GRAND PRIZE: \$1,000**
- **An Annual Federal Recreation Lands Pass:** 40 lucky winners will receive an Annual Federal Recreational Lands Pass